United Nations A/C.2/54/SR.43

General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
08 February 2000
English
Original: French

Second Committee

Summary record of the 43rd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 24 November 1999, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Niculescu (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Romania)
later: Mr. Brauzzi (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Italy)

Contents

Agenda item 99: Sustainable development and international economic cooperation *(continued)*

(g) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership *(continued)*

Agenda item 100: Environment and sustainable development *(continued)*

(b) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction *(continued)*

Agenda item 101: Operational activities for development *(continued)*

(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries *(continued)*

Agenda item 102: Training and research *(continued)*

Agenda item 12: Report of the Economic and Social Council *(continued)*

Agenda item 97: Macroeconomic policy questions *(continued)*

(c) Trade and development *(continued)*

Agenda item 103: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources *(continued)*

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

00-23487 (E)

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Niculescu (Romania), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Agenda item 99: Sustainable development and international economic cooperation *(continued)*

(g) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership *(continued)*

Draft resolution on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/C.2/54/L.9 and L.45)

1. **The Chairman** introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.45, which was submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.9.

2. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.45 was adopted.*

3. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.9 was withdrawn.*

4. **The Chairman** suggested that the Committee should adopt the following draft decision:

> "The General Assembly takes note of the Note by the Secretary-General on themes for the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/54/328)".

5. *The draft decision was adopted.*

Agenda item 100: Environment and sustainable development *(continued)*

(b) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction *(continued)*

Draft resolution on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon (A/C.2/54/L.29 and L.43)

6. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.43, which was submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.29.

7. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.43 was adopted.*

8. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.29 was withdrawn.*

Draft resolutions on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: successor arrangements (A/C.2/54/L.28 and L.44)

9. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.44, which was submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.28. In paragraph 11 of the English text, the phrase "to ensure adequate action warnings" should be placed at the end of the sentence. In paragraph 9 of the Spanish text, the phrase "*inclusive los manuales*" should be replaced by "*inclusive a través de manuales*".

10. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.44 was adopted.*

11. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.28 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 101: Operational activities for development *(continued)*

(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries *(continued)*

Draft resolution on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (A/C.2/54/L.5 and L.47)

12. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.47, which was submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.5.

13. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.47 was adopted.*

14. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.5 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 102: Training and research *(continued)*

Draft resolution on the United Nations Staff College in Turin, Italy (A/C.2/54/L.26 and L.42)

15. **Mr. Brauzzi** (Italy), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.42, which was submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.26.

16. **Mr. Kaariainen** (Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the following States had joined the sponsors: Argentina, Armenia, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Malta, Morocco, Nicaragua, Norway,

Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Venezuela.

17. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.42 was adopted.*

18. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.26 was withdrawn.*

Draft resolution on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/C.2/54/L.30 and L.46)

19. **Mr. Brauzzi** (Italy), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.46, which was submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.30.

20. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.46 was adopted.*

21. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.30 was withdrawn.*

22. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 102.

Agenda item 12: Report of the Economic and Social Council *(continued)*

Draft resolution on the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/C.2/54/L.31 and L.41)

23. **Mr. Brauzzi** (Italy), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.41, which was submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.31.

24. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.41 was adopted.*

25. **Ms. Fahmy** (Egypt) said that the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its eighth session in 2000, would examine the parts of the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development which were relevant to the programme of work of the Commission for 2000, and would take into account, in particular, the recommendations of the Working Group on Water Resources. She requested the Secretariat to ensure that the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development was ready before the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

26. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.31 was withdrawn.*

27. *Mr. Brauzzi (Italy), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.*

Agenda item 97: Macroeconomic policy questions *(continued)*

(c) Trade and development *(continued)*

Draft resolution on unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (A/C.2/54/L.40)

28. **The Chairman** introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40, which had resulted from informal consultations.

29. He put the draft resolution to the vote.

30. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland,

Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan.

31. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40 was adopted by 94 votes to 2, with 43 abstentions.*

32. **Mr. Hovhannisyan** (Armenia), speaking in explanation of vote, said that Armenia had always categorically condemned the resort to coercive economic measures, in particular in the South Caucasus, where they were detrimental to the development of trade relations. Armenia, a landlocked country, was experiencing the economic difficulties of both a developing country and an economy in transition, as well as the rigours of an economic blockade that was contrary to the principles of international law and the multilateral trading system. Nevertheless, it did not consider itself condemned to marginalization and believed in closer cooperation among the countries of the Caucasus region.

33. **Mr. Kaariainen** (Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the Union had abstained in the vote on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40. It did, indeed, believe that economic measures should respect the principles of international law as expressed in the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of the multilateral trading system and the rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO). But since it believed that any coercive economic measure should be condemned, no matter which country was targeted, it regretted that the draft resolution cited almost exclusively the resort to coercive economic measures against developing countries. It hoped that the discussions on the subject to be held at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly would allow the scope of the resolutions adopted to be broadened.

Agenda item 103: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources *(continued)*

Draft resolution on the permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (A/C.2/54/L.32*)

34. **Mr. Niculescu** (Romania), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.32*, which had been drafted as a result of informal consultations and which had been reissued for technical reasons. He pointed out that, at the end of the fourth line of the last preambular paragraph in the English text, the word "that" should appear only once.

35. **The Chairman** said that, if he heard no objection, the draft resolution, as orally revised, would be put to the vote.

36. *It was so decided.*

37. **Mr. Gabay** (Israel), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that, since its inception, Israel had hoped to establish peaceful relations with all its neighbours. Indeed, the establishment of permanent peace in the Middle East had been the foundation of its policy, and at a time when prospects for the realization of that goal were favourable, it had expected to receive the support of the international community.

38. In that context, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.32* was completely superfluous because, by ignoring the mutual commitments between the parties, it attempted to set up a parallel process that would contribute nothing to the negotiations. In fact, on 4 September 1999, Israel and the Palestinian Authority had signed the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum, in which they had made a commitment to negotiate a framework agreement on final status by February 2000. The fact that the parties had been able to set a target date of 13 September 2000 for the signing of the agreement showed that direct negotiations were the only way to achieve positive results.

39. It was therefore regrettable that the Committee should be discussing a draft resolution which was aimed at predetermining the outcome of the direct negotiations. The United Nations could indeed play a

constructive role by supporting the achievements of the peace process. By contrast, consideration of a draft resolution on sovereignty over natural resources was another attempt to intervene in matters relating to the peace process, which lay outside the scope of the Second Committee.

40. Israel would therefore vote against the draft resolution and urged other delegations which supported the peace process and the principle of direct negotiations to do the same.

41. **Mr. Keene** (United States of America) said that his delegation would vote against the draft resolution on natural resources in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights for several reasons. First, it attempted to interject the General Assembly into issues which were the subject of negotiations between the parties by prejudging the outcome of the negotiations. For example, the use of the term "sovereignty" was an attempt to use the General Assembly to pre-empt the negotiations.

42. Second, the United States also objected to the reference to "the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem" as an attempt to prejudge the final status negotiations. That was particularly inappropriate in that the parties had only recently signed the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum, which included an agreement to begin negotiations on those issues, negotiations that had just begun. His delegation would gladly vote in favour of a resolution that demonstrated the support of the international community for the peace process, but the draft resolution under consideration was too unbalanced to serve the cause of peace.

43. His delegation would therefore vote against the draft resolution and it urged other delegations to do the same.

44. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.32* as orally revised.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Zambia.

45. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.32* was adopted by 132 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions.*

46. **Ms. Silfverberg** (Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the Union had voted in favour of the draft resolution because the natural resources of a territory acquired by force should not be used in an abusive and illegal manner by the occupying Power. She also wished to clarify the interpretation which the European Union gave to certain aspects of the draft resolution. She reaffirmed that the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 was applicable to the occupied Territory, and that any violation of the rights of the Palestinian people was illegal under the terms of that Convention. However, the questions raised in the

draft resolution should be addressed in the framework of the final status negotiations. The draft resolution could not be considered as prejudging the outcome of the negotiations, but any action or statement that could be so interpreted must be avoided.

47. **Mr. Basmajiev** (Bulgaria) said that his delegation associated itself with the explanation of vote after the vote given by the representative of Finland on behalf of the European Union.

48. **Mr. Seki** (Japan) said that his delegation started from the principle that the process begun in the Middle East was the only realistic option for the establishment of peace and stability in the region. Japan had actively supported that process through consultations with the parties and economic assistance to the Palestinians, and intended to continue to do so. In that spirit, his delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.3/54/L.32*.

49. His delegation also wished to draw attention to paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, which referred to issues to be dealt with in the negotiations, and to express its support for the phrase "[the General Assembly] expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiation between the Palestinian and Israeli sides". It wished to clarify that, by voting in favour, it did not intend to prejudge the outcome of the final status negotiations. With regard to the concept of "permanent sovereignty" used in the title, his delegation wished to make it clear that its support for the draft resolution did not reflect any change in its position concerning the legal status of the occupied Palestinian territory. Finally, in its view, the Second Committee was not the most appropriate forum to adopt that type of text, which dealt with issues that were fundamentally political in nature.

50. **Mr. A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the support of delegations for the draft resolution showed that the international community attached importance to the peace process in the Middle East and understood the grave dangers resulting from the systematic policy pursued by the Israeli Government, which ignored United Nations resolutions and violated international norms, thus preventing a comprehensive and just settlement in the region. The international community should accept its responsibility for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in accordance with the resolutions calling for respect for international law, the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Syrian Golan to the June 1967 border and from southern Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley, and the guarantee of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

51. **Mr. Jilani** (Observer for Palestine) thanked the sponsors of the draft resolution and the States which had voted in favour of it. In his view, there was no contradiction between the current peace process and respect for international law and the resolutions of the United Nations. The agreements negotiated should complement the principles of international law, not replace them. Twenty-four Security Council resolutions affirmed that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War was applicable to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem. Israel was imposing a regime similar to apartheid with regard to the use of natural resources, in particular, land and water. Certain standards applied to illegal Israeli settlers, others to the indigenous Palestinian population. He reaffirmed his support for the current peace process and hoped that the negotiations would result in a comprehensive, just and lasting peace which would respect international legitimacy and the United Nations resolutions.

52. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 103.

The meeting rose at 11.40 a.m.

United Nations A/C.2/54/SR.44

General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
03 March 2000
English
Original: French

Second Committee

Summary record of the 44th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 1 December 1999, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Olhaye ..... (Djibouti)

Contents

Agenda item 97: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*)

(c) Trade and development (*continued*)

(d) Science and technology for development (*continued*)

Agenda item 99: Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (*continued*)

(c) Women in development (*continued*)

(d) Human resources development (*continued*)

(e) International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues (*continued*)

Agenda item 100: Environment and sustainable development (*continued*)

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (*continued*)

(c) Convention on Biological Diversity (*continued*)

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (*continued*)

(f) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*continued*)

Agenda item 101: Operational activities for development (*continued*)

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

00-25264 (E)

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system (*continued*)

(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (*continued*)

Agenda item 12: Report of the Economic and Social Council (*continued*)

Agenda item 103: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (*continued*)

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Agenda item 97: Macroeconomic policy questions *(continued)*

(c) Trade and development *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries (A/C.2/54/L.37 and A/C.2/54/L.56)

1. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the Controller of the United Nations had requested that the following statement should be drawn to the attention of the Second Committee:

> "A review of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.56 indicates that paragraphs 11 and 15 deal with administrative and budgetary matters. In paragraph 11, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene in 2001, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 2000-2001, another meeting of governmental experts from landlocked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions. In paragraph 15, it would invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the resolution, and to provide, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/183, the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries with adequate resources so as to allow it to implement effectively its mandate to continue to support landlocked developing countries.
>
> "Resources for activities related to landlocked and transit developing countries have been included in the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 which is currently under discussion in the Fifth Committee. The attention of the Committee is drawn to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B, section VI, which reaffirms that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters; reaffirms the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; expresses its concern at the tendency of its substantive Committees and other intergovernmental bodies to involve themselves in administrative and budgetary matters; and invites the Secretary-General to provide all intergovernmental bodies with the required information regarding procedures for administrative and budgetary matters."

2. **Mr. Brauzzi** (Italy), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.56, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.37.

3. **Mr. Kittikhoun** (Lao People's Democratic Republic) requested that, in the French text, in the penultimate line of paragraph 15, the conjunction "*ou*" (or) should be replaced by "*et*" (and), consistent with the English text, to read "Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries".

4. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.56, as orally amended in French, was adopted.*

5. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.37 was withdrawn.*

6. **The Chairman** informed Committee members that the delegation of Slovakia had informed the Secretariat that, had it been present during the vote on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40, it would have abstained.

7. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Committee) added that the delegation of Ethiopia had just informed the Secretariat that, had it been present during the vote, it would have voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40.

8. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 97 (c).

(d) Science and technology for development (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on science and technology for development (A/C.2/54/L.4 and A/C.2/54/L.48)

9. **Mr. Brauzzi** (Italy), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.48, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.4. The draft resolution reaffirmed the common vision of science and technology as approved by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its fourth session, which stated that science and technology should be considered the common heritage of mankind and should be shared, and reaffirmed the important role that the United Nations should play in the promotion of cooperation in science and technology as one of its priorities.

10. **Mr. Le Gargasson** (France) requested that, in paragraph 26, the phrase "*d'un tel examen*" should be replaced by "*de ce point*" ("of the item"), consistent with the English text and with what had been negotiated during the consultations.

11. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.48, as orally amended in French, was adopted.*

12. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.4 was withdrawn.*

13. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 97 (d).

Agenda Item 99: Sustainable development and international economic cooperation *(continued)*

(c) Women in development *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on women in development (A/C.2/54/L.21 and A/C.2/54/L.52)

14. **Mr. Niculescu** (Romania), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.52, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.21. In paragraph 11 of the English version, the words "as men" should follow the phrase "full and equal rights"; the phrase "right of inheritance" should be replaced by "right to inheritance".

15. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.52, as orally revised, was adopted.*

16. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.21 was withdrawn.*

17. **The Chairman** proposed that the Committee should adopt the following draft decision:

> "The General Assembly takes note of the following documents:
>
> (a) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "An evaluation of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/54/156-E/1999/102);
>
> (b) Note by the Secretary-General submitting his comments on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "An evaluation of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/54/156/Add.1-E/1999/102/Add.1)"."

18. *The draft decision was adopted.*

19. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 99 (c).

(d) Human resources development *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on developing human resources for development (A/C.2/54/L.10 and A/C.2/54/L.57)

20. **Mr. Niculescu** (Romania), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.57, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.10.

21. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.57 was adopted.*

22. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.10 was withdrawn.*

23. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 99 (d).

(e) International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on international migration and development (A/C.2/54/L.11 and A/C.2/54/L.53)

24. **Mr. Niculescu** (Romania), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.53, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.11. The phrase "in

particular in the context of regional cooperation" should be added at the end of the ninth preambular paragraph; towards the end of paragraph 6, the word "problem" should be in the plural.

25. **Mr. Gallagher** (United States of America) said that he had been under the impression that title of the draft resolution, which also included the phrase, "including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development ...", would be repeated in paragraph 9. That phrase was also contained in the title of agenda item 99 (e) at the top of the page; nonetheless, the resolution was simply entitled "International migration and development". He would appreciate clarification in that regard.

26. **Mr. Cabactulan** (Philippines) explained that there had been three options for the title. Initially, many representatives had felt that it should fully echo the title of the agenda item by retaining the phrase "including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development". Ultimately, it had been agreed that the simplest possible title would be used but that paragraph 9 would contain the wording of the agenda item.

27. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.53, as orally revised, was adopted.*

28. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.11 was withdrawn.*

29. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 99 (e).

Agenda item 100: Environment and sustainable development *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on conservation and sustainable development of Central African forest ecosystems (A/C.2/54/L.7 and A/C.2/54/L.51)

30. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.51, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.7.

31. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.51 was adopted.*

32. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.7 was withdrawn.*

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on the implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly (A/C.2/54/L.14 and A/C.2/54/L.58)

33. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.58, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.14.

34. **Ms. Krishna** (India) noted that two errors had crept into the text of the draft resolution established at the outcome of informal consultations. In the eighth line of paragraph 5, the phrase "implementation at all levels of the commitments and ..." should be replaced by "implementation of the commitments of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at all levels and ..." . The word "adoption" in the ninth line of that paragraph should be replaced by "development".

35. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.58, as orally amended, was adopted.*

36. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.14 was withdrawn.*

37. **The Chairman** proposed that the Committee should adopt the following draft decision:

> "The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on measures taken in the United Nations system to accelerate progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (A/54/131-E/1999/75)."

38. *The draft decision was adopted.*

39. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 100 (a).

(c) Convention on Biological Diversity *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/C.2/54/L.15 and A/C.2/54/L.55)

40. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L 55, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.15.

41. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.55 was adopted.*

42. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.15 was withdrawn.*

43. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 100 (c).

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind
(A/C.2/54/L.18 and A/C.2/54/L.54)

44. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Committee), speaking on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.54, said that, in view of the provisions of paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, it should be noted that the draft calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2000-2001 included the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies, following the practice established by General Assembly resolution 50/115. The draft calendar had been endorsed by the Committee on Conferences and was currently under review by the Fifth Committee in the context of agenda item 124 on the pattern of conferences. The full cost of eight weeks of meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies was estimated at $4,309,000. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources could be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2000-2001. However, provision was made under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the proposed programme budget not only for meetings programmed at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings were consistent with the pattern of recent years. Consequently, should the General Assembly decide to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.54, the conference servicing expenses for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties could be accommodated and thus no additional appropriation would be required under section 2 of the proposed programme budget.

45. **Mr. Gallagher** (United States of America), reaffirming his delegation's support for the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, said that, although the United States had joined the consensus on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.54 in order to facilitate the Committee's work, it was concerned that the expenses related to the Conference of the Parties, particularly those relating to conference servicing, continued to be covered by the regular budget of the United Nations. It had, of course, been entirely appropriate for the United Nations to finance the activities of the Convention's temporary secretariat; however, now that the interim phase was over, the Conference of the Parties should assume the cost of operational activities and, in particular, that of conference servicing. His delegation had raised that issue throughout the consultations on the draft resolution and intended to continue requesting the necessary changes in all the appropriate forums.

46. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.54, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.18.

47. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.54 was adopted.*

48. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.18 was withdrawn.*

49. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 100 (d).

(f) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
(A/C.2/54/L.23 and A/C.2/54/L.50)

50. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.50, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.23.

51. **Mr. Chouinard** (Canada) said that his delegation wished to become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.50.

52. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.50 was adopted.*

53. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.23 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 101: Operational activities for development *(continued)*

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system *(continued)*

54. **The Chairman** noted that no draft resolution had been submitted under the agenda item.

(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries *(continued)*

Draft resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community (A/C.2/54/L.6 and A/C.2/54/L.49)

55. **Mr. Matute** (Peru), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.49, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.6.

56. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.49 was adopted.*

57. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.6 was withdrawn.*

58. **The Chairman** proposed that the Committee should adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its eleventh session (1 to 4 June 1999) (A/54/39); and

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/54/225)."

59. *The draft decision was adopted.*

60. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda items 101 (a) and (b).

Agenda item 12: Report of the Economic and Social Council *(continued)*

61. **The Chairman** informed Committee members that the Secretary-General, pursuant to the request by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1999/34, had prepared a report entitled "Analysis of the organizational structure and the personnel and technical resources of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat" (A/54/520). Since the report had been issued under both agenda item 12 (report of the Economic and Social Council) and agenda item 121 (Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001), it would also be brought to the attention of the Fifth Committee for its information.

62. **Mr. Abderrahmane** (Algeria) said that his delegation did not fully understand the purpose of submitting the report (A/54/520) to the Second Committee. Although the Chairman had indicated that it had been for purposes of information, the report seemed to be intended more for the Fifth Committee; moreover, reports prepared by the Secretariat and submitted to one of the Main Committees were not systematically submitted to the others for their information. Lastly, the report had not yet been distributed. Therefore, his delegation wondered what exactly was expected of the Second Committee, which ran the risk of impinging on the work of the Fifth Committee.

63. **Ms. Khan** (Director of the Division for Support to the Economic and Social Council and Coordination of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs) said that the report had been prepared at the request of the Economic and Social Council and had first been distributed on 24 November. Agenda item 12 was the only item under which the report could be submitted to the Second, Third and Fifth Committees simultaneously; the Fifth Committee was also required to consider it under agenda item 121 (proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001). Technically, the report was submitted at the same time to the three Main Committees in order to avoid any gap; however, each of the Committees and their Bureaux must decide on how to deal with the report.

64. **Mr. Abderrahmane** (Algeria) thanked the representative of the Secretariat for her clarification but maintained that the report was intended for the Fifth Committee in particular, that the Third Committee had, in any case, concluded its work and that there was very little reason for the Second Committee to be informed in passing.

Agenda item 103: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources *(continued)*

65. **The Chairman** said that the delegation of Panama had informed the Secretariat that, had it been present during the vote, it would have voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.32 on the permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.